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# WASHRAG

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 12  
DECEMBER 2017



Wireless Association of South Hills



N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B

[www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org) [www.washarc.org](http://www.washarc.org)





## WASHRAG™



VOLUME 19 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2017

### Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The next meeting of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** will be on **Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 2017**, in the Conference Room at the **St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park, by South Hills Village & Village Square** (map on the back page). The room is available at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be starting at 7:00 PM.

2018 Officer Elections will take place tonight. Following the meeting, Larry K3VX will use his Wayback Machine to show us a video from a past Field Day... Field Day 1973. (Those of you who still have bell bottoms and leisure suits are requested to wear them to the meeting) See you there!

Cover Photo: The crowd at this year's WACOM Hamfest. More Photos on Pages 13 & 14!

Cover Photo is courtesy of & © Copyright 2017 Ron Notarius W3WN

## WASH 2017 OFFICERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Glen Roberts KE7FD
VP / Secretary	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
VP / Treasurer	Mark Stabryla N3RDV

### AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT:

N3SH Trustee	Larry Comden K3VX
WA3SH Trustee	Rich Danko N3SBF
NP2SH Trustee	Paul Jordan NP2JF
N3SH WA3SH NP2SH/B QSL Manager	Ron Notarius W3WN
NP2SH 2009 QSL Manager	Carl Schroeder K9CS
VE Team Liaison	Ron Notarius W3WN
Webmaster	Sean Sleeman N3NWR
Asst. Webmaster	Ben Williams KB3ERQ
Quartermaster	Harold Rosenberger K3HCR
WASH FM Net Manager	Chuck Bihun KC3ELA
WASHFest 2018 Committee	Carol Danko KB3GMN, Chairman
	Bill Hill W3WH, Co-Chair
Activities & Operating Events	Rick Bell KB3IAC
Ways & Means	Carol Danko KB3GMN
WASH 2M Contest Chair	Jim Sanford WB4GCS
Field Day 2018 Coordinators	Rick Bell KB3IAC
	Bill Hill W3WH

### CLUB-AFFILIATED REPEATERS, BEACONS, & DIGIPEATERS:

Mt. Lebanon	N3SH / R	146.955 MHz (-)	PL 131.8
North Side	N3SH / R	442.550 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
Canonsburg	N3FB / R	443.650 MHz (+)	PL 131.8
St. Johns, VI	NP2SH / B	28.276 MHz	Propagation Beacon
Canonsburg	N3SH	144.390 MHz	APRS Digipeater

**N3SH / WA3SH WASHNet**, the weekly on-air net of WASH, meets every

**Monday** Night, 8:00 PM ET, on the 146.955 & 443.650 repeaters.

All radio amateurs, WASH members or not, are welcome to join in!

## THE LEGAL STUFF

"The WASHRag™" (formerly "The Mariner™") is the Official Newsletter of the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC. (WASH)**, a 501.C.3 not for profit organization.

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Editor & Publisher: Ron Notarius W3WN

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The **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** was founded on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1993, as the original **SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**, and operated under that name through 1998. WASH was also known briefly in late 1998 as the **N3SH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**. It is not in any way affiliated with the "South Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc." and is not responsible for that group, it's members, or it's actions in any way, shape, or form.

As always, special thanks to the owners & operators of both the N3SH/R Repeaters and the N3FB/R Repeater System for permitting the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.** and it's members to use their repeaters for club purposes.

## WASH Amateur Radio Club News Briefs

### Next WASH VE Test February 25<sup>th</sup>

The Next WASH VE exam sessions will be **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 10:00 AM**, at **WASHFest 2018**, South Park Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park, PA 15129. Talk-in on the 146.955 MHz and 443.650 MHz repeaters. All examiners are ARRL VEC affiliated.

#### Pre-registration is not required. Walk-ins welcome!

But if you plan on attending the test session, please contact VE Team Liason Ron Notarius W3WN:

Telephone (412) 572-6723 or E-Mail: [w3wn@n3sh.org](mailto:w3wn@n3sh.org)

Please bring the following to your test session:

Picture ID or other suitable identification (2 forms of ID required)  
Pen / Pencil / Calculator  
Original FCC license plus a copy of license (if upgrading)  
Original CSCE plus a copy of CSCE (if upgrading)  
Check or Cash in the amount of **\$15.00** (payable to: ARRL VEC)

Future test dates: **To Be Scheduled**



### Glen's Musings



Well here we are again, another winter break for indoor shack projects and another election for **WASH** president.

On the latter, let me say the past year has been fun and couldn't have been even remotely possible were it not for everyone else in the club bearing the weight of chairing roles, and positions that keep us running. To each of you: A heartfelt thanks!

On the former, if your shack is dark, turn on the lights before you plug yourself into a light socket. Speaking from experience...

Looking ahead, there's the **WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest** this month, and **WASHFest 2018** will be upon us before we know it. So when Carol comes around looking for helpers, I know she can count on **WASH** members to step up and help!

I hope everyone will have a great holiday season in 2017!

— 73, Glen Roberts KE7FD

President, Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.  
N3SH / WA3SH / NP2SH/b



Nearly 8000 Scouts got on the air as part of last month's 60<sup>th</sup> Jamboree on the Air, as per National JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson K5ND. Over 900 Amateur Radio operators at 525 stations assisted those scouts in joining the airwaves.

The number of participants was down from 2016, when almost 11,000 Scouts were on the air, but in line with the 2015 participation level.

The Saturday between Thanksgiving & Black Friday, and Cyber Monday & Deer Season Opening tends to have a low turnout for the **WASH Breakfast Gang**, and Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup> was no exception. It was a small group this month at **Suzie B's**, 950 South Central Avenue (Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19) in Canonsburg, consisting of WB4GCS, N3IDH, W3WN, a dozen or so State Police officers and one lone Canonsburg one by himself. Ironically, it was one of the few times when we needn't have bothered with the usual reservations... there were a lot of regulars still working off their tryptophan intake! Regardless, topics of the morning Turkey and family, "rotten kids", parades, funeral home visits, turkey, changes in the GI Bill, the fading away of The Greatest Generation, and family histories.

Our next gathering of the Gang will be on Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, as usual at **Suzie B's**, 950 South Central Avenue (Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19), Canonsburg, officially starting at **8:00 AM**. Our "usual" tables will be reserved, but **please** let Jim WB4GCS know ahead of time, so that Suzie & her crew will have enough space available for us. (We really don't want to fight the State Police for seats... we'd lose!) See you there?

Rules for next month's **18<sup>th</sup> Annual WASH 2 Meter Simplex contest** are on Page 17 of this issue. (Yes, Page 17... sure glad we don't have to pay to print & mail all these copies anymore!) No significant changes in the rules themselves from last year, but as some of you already know, Jim WB4GCS just hasn't had the time available, and has had to step away from running the contest. Chuck KC3ELA has offered to take it over, and we know he'll do a great job!

Of course, as you talk with other Amateurs in the area in the next few weeks, please help promote the event! It's a short little contest, and it can be a heck of a lot of fun — the more the merrier!

We are planning to hold our more-or-less **annual end-of-holidays Christmas/Holiday party** in January. It's going to be held, again, at Calabria's on Library Road (Route 88) in Castle Shannon, on January 21<sup>st</sup>. (We will have our regular January meeting, of course). Of course, everyone and their families and spouses (or significant others) are welcome! The preliminary details are on Page 16.

However... **Carol KB3GMN needs to know who is coming**, the sooner the better & preferably by about December 15<sup>th</sup>. We have to give the restaurant an approximate number to make sure we can hold the "party room". So please let her know, if you have not already, as soon as possible!

Do you realize that we're less than three months away from **WASHFest 2018**? Yes, time flies, and it will be here before you know it! As things get closer to the date, you'll be hearing more and more from Carol about where we stand and what we need. Suffice to say, as always, we'll need a little bit of help from everyone to pull things together and keep things running smoothly, so please plan your time for the end of February accordingly! (Remember, if everyone helps a little, no one gets over-burdened with too much to do)



Congratulations are in order to incoming **ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH**. Looking forward to working with you, sir!

Don't forget... December is our **annual Officers Elections** meeting! (If you don't come, well, you might get elected to something... you never know... <g> )

And last but not least... **Merry Christmas** and **Happy Holidays** to all members of **WASH** and to all of our many readers of the **WASHRag**!



You never know what you'll find at a meeting... see the Spotlight on Page 4!

**Join WASH or Renew your Membership Today! Membership Application on Page 21**



## Minutes, November 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

Harold Rosenberger K3HCR, Vice President/Secretary, **WASH**

Glen KE7FD called the meeting to order at 19:01 hours. There were 14 members & 1 guest present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of silence was observed for recent Silent Keys & others deserving, and then introductions.

Motion to waive reading of the minutes based on the minutes printed in the newsletter by Bill W3WH, second by Bob KC3DOF, & passed unanimously.

### Committee reports:

Treasurer (N3RDV): Report read and accepted. Motion to accept by Harold K3HCR, second by Eric K3SGT, carried unanimously.

Secretary (KB3ERQ): Minutes in the newsletter

VE (W3WN): Our next test session will be at **WASHFest 2018** in February.

Repeaters (N3FB): New radios are online tonight. "Not sure how it plays." 442 machine needs controller installed at the hospital site.

**WASHNet** (KC3ELA): Going well. Repeaters are a little "iffy".

N3SH.ORG (N3NWR): No report

Public Service (AB3ED): No report.

Contests (K3VX): Important contests are shown in the newsletter.

**WASHFest 2018** (KB3GMN): WACOM hamfest is this Sunday.

Ways & Means (KB3GMN): Voluntary membership contributions will be accepted after the meeting.

Newsletter (W3WN): Out.

President (KE7FD): Larry K3VX is celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday!

Old Business: Discussion regarding the Holiday Party. After-holiday date in January suggested.

Officer Nominations: No new nominations. Motion to close nominations by Bill W3WH, second by Frank N3FB, passed unanimously.

Elections to be held at December meeting.

### New Business:

Motion to pay the repeater electric bill by Bill W3WH, second by Carol KB3GMN and carried.

Motion to approve annual registration for the tower trailer by Carol KB3GMN, second by Bill W3WH, passed unanimously

Good of the Order: Glen KE7FD passed out old radio books that he had brought.

Motion to Adjourn by Carol KB3GMN, second by Larry K3VX, and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 19:35

## WASH Spotlight: K3VX

Larry K3VX was surprised with a cake and a small celebration at the November meeting, in honor of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Congratulations Larry from all of us!

*K3VX Photo courtesy of and © 2017 Frank Bobro N3FB, as are the photo of Bob below left & the photo on page 3*



Every month we're going to feature a **WASH** club member, something about them, something they're involved in or a club-related activity that we're involved in, in the **WASH Spotlight**. Submissions for the Spotlight should be sent to Ron W3WN at [newsletter at](#)

## Monthly WASH Breakfast

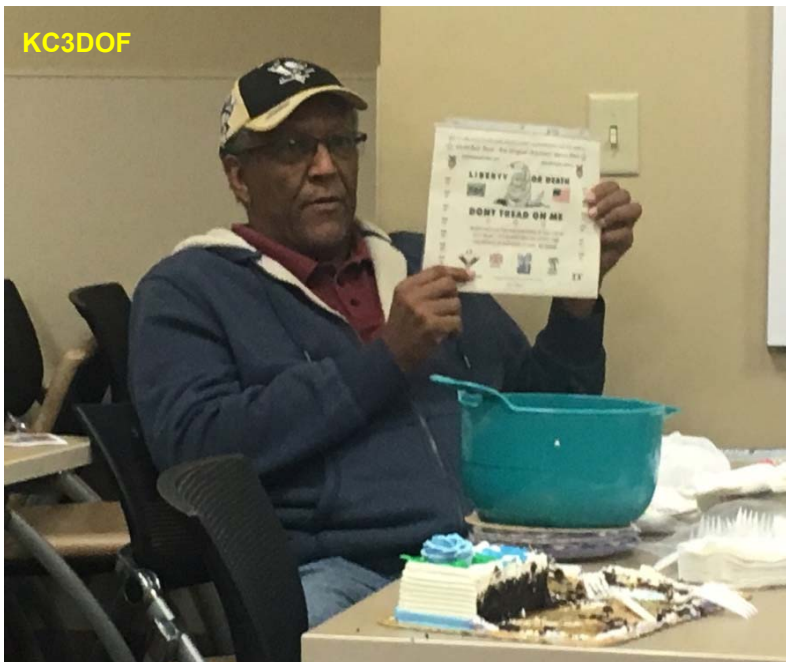
Please join us for the next **WASH** Breakfast! We usually get together on the LAST Saturday of every month for a chance to informally sit down, shoot the breeze, compare notes, drink lots of coffee, and just have a good time!



Join us this month at **Suzy B's**, Route 910 at the intersection of Route 519 at US 19, 1 mile North of Downtown Canonsburg. Start time is about 8 AM until ????. Monitor 146.955 & 443.659 for talk-in or any last minute changes. All are welcome, **WASH** members or not, amateurs or not!

## Wireless Association of South Hills Membership

KC3DOF



2018

K3CMU  
KC4WTT  
N3BPB  
WB4GCS

2017

AA3GM  
AB3ED  
AB3NM  
AE3DL  
AK3RG  
K3HCR  
K3SGT  
K3VX  
KA3TWI  
KA3VXM  
KB3DCO  
KB3GMN

KB3GMU  
KB3IAC  
KB3IVX  
KB3JHR  
KB3ORO  
KB3YCX  
KC3DOF  
KC3ELA  
KC3HNU  
KC3IRH  
KE7FD  
N1NCZ  
N3DFK  
N3FB  
N3IDH  
N3JFQ  
N3RDV  
N3RHT  
N3RIY

N3SBF  
N3TDV  
N3UE  
N3YQX  
NU3Q  
W3LE  
W3WH  
W3WN  
W8LEV  
WA3JFL  
WA3PYU  
WA3VSS  
WO3Z

WASH FL  
KA3UPY/M  
W4ZE  
WASH NE  
NØPEU  
WASH OR  
NØWPV  
KB3NVL  
KB3NVM  
WASH OH  
N8DPW

WASH TN  
K3OL  
KE3XB  
N3YPB  
WASH TX  
NB3C  
K3LGM  
KB3JX  
Jane Wagner  
WASH VI  
NP2JF

### Silent Keys

AB3KA  
K3EED  
K3LIE  
KA3NMG  
KB3ENX  
KB3FNM  
KB3FQT  
KB3JHQ  
N3CZZ  
N3FZ  
N3HKQ  
N3KEH  
N3OBD  
N3RNX  
N3SKR  
N3SRC  
N3ZEL  
N3XFE  
W3ZLK  
WA3JPP

*If your call should be listed here & isn't, please contact Mark N3RDV*

Through November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
List compiled by  
Mark Stabryla N3RDV, Vice President/Treasurer

# 2017-18 WASH Upcoming Events Calendar

*Club Meetings & Other Significant Events — Subject to Change*

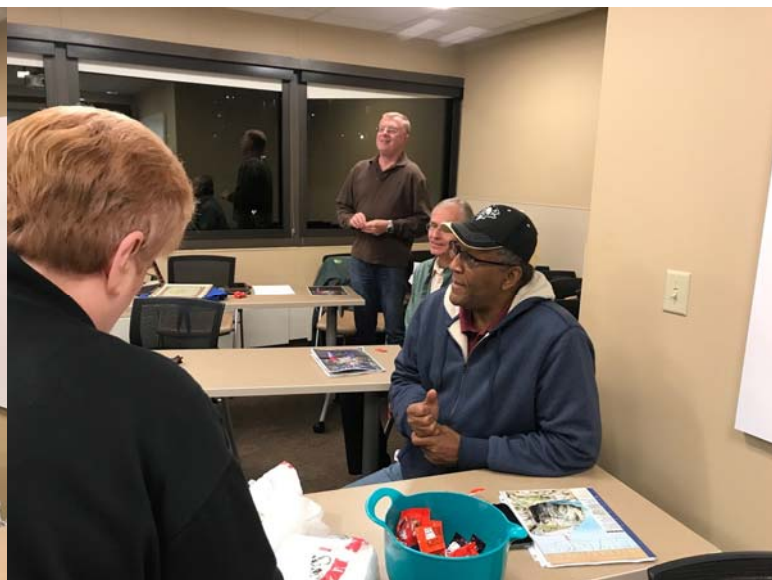


December 1 <sup>st</sup> — 3 <sup>rd</sup>	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
December 9 <sup>th</sup> — 10 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
December 9 <sup>th</sup> — 10 <sup>th</sup> December 16 <sup>th</sup> — 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bruce Kelly 1929 QSO Party	<a href="#">Antique Wireless Association</a>
December 30 <sup>th</sup> — 31 <sup>st</sup>	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	<a href="http://www.kkn.net/stew">http://www.kkn.net/stew</a>
January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2018	Straight Key Night	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
January 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	WASH Meeting 	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
January 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	ARRL Kid's Day	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
January 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	WASH 2 Meter Simplex Contest	<a href="http://www.n3sh.org">http://www.n3sh.org</a>
January 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Breezeshooter's Groundwave PSK	<a href="http://www.breezeshooters.net">http://www.breezeshooters.net</a>
February 1 <sup>st</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
February 10 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooter's Groundwave CW	<a href="http://www.breezeshooters.net">http://www.breezeshooters.net</a>
February 17 <sup>th</sup> — 18 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL DX Contest CW	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	WASHFest 2018	Home Economics Building, 3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park 
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	WASH VE Exams at WASHFest 2018	
March 1 <sup>st</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> — 4 <sup>th</sup>	ARRL DX Contest SSB	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Breezeshooter's Groundwave CW	<a href="http://www.breezeshooters.net">http://www.breezeshooters.net</a>
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	WASH Meeting	St. Outpatient Center, 2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park
May 18 <sup>th</sup> — 20 <sup>th</sup>	Dayton ARA Hamvention	<a href="#">Green County Fairgrounds, Xenia OH</a>
June 2 <sup>nd</sup> — 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Breezeshooter's Hamfest	<a href="http://breezeshooters.org">http://breezeshooters.org</a>



# "Seen" at the October Meeting

Photos Courtesy of and © Copyright 2017 Harold Rosenberger K3HCR





# ARRL Board of Directors Publicly Censures Southwestern Division Director

American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 — Acting on a recommendation of its Ethics and Elections Committee, the ARRL Board of Directors has publicly censured one of its own — ARRL Southwestern Director Dick Norton, N6AA. On an 11-3 vote, with one member abstaining, the Board adopted a resolution to censure Norton for criticizing the [ARRL Code of Conduct](#) for Board members at an Amateur Radio gathering “by virtue of his characterizations thereof, thus criticizing publicly the collective action of the Board of Directors adopting said Code of Conduct and drawing the Board’s collective decision making into disrepute.” The resolution cited “multiple portions of the Code of Conduct” that Norton was found to have violated. The Board’s action related to a complaint filed with the Ethics and Elections Committee by an ARRL member.

The Board met in special session by teleconference on November 14<sup>th</sup> to consider the matter. President Rick Roderick K5UR, conducted the session; ARRL CEO and Board Secretary Tom Gallagher NY2RF, and ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay W3KD, were among those who attended the evening online gathering.

According to the resolution, fellow Board members had cautioned Norton that “his actions and his manner” in criticizing the Code of Conduct for Board members were “not acceptable and cannot continue, with no notable change in his behavior since that time.”

Norton had been provided with a copy of the Ethics and Elections Committee resolution, dated September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and responded to it in writing, accompanied by statements of four ARRL members who supported his response.

The Board found that Norton’s violation of the ARRL Code of Conduct had “caused harm to the League” and provided sufficient cause to publicly censure Norton for “unacceptable behavior as an ARRL Board member.”

“Mr. Norton is admonished by the Board that no further, similar behavior will be tolerated,” the resolution concluded.

The [minutes](#) of the special ARRL Board of Directors meeting have been posted on the ARRL website.

## What the Heck is the ARRL Board Thinking?

Dan Romanchik KB6NU

Ann Arbor, MI, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (updated November 28<sup>th</sup>) — On Monday, I got an email from the ARRL. Attached were minutes of a [Special Board Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors](#) held by teleconference on Tuesday, November 14, 2017. At first, I didn’t think much of it, but after reading the minutes, I thought to myself, “What heck are these guys thinking?”

What the minutes document is the censure of Dick Norton, N6AA, for “criticizing publicly the collective action of the Board of Directors adopting said Code of Conduct[sic] and drawing the Board’s collective decision making into disrepute.” Here’s the entire section from the minutes:

4. Mr. Carlson, moved, seconded by Mr. Lisenco that:

Whereas, Mr. Richard Norton, N6AA, publicly criticized the ARRL Code of Conduct for Board members at a public Amateur Radio gathering by virtue of his characterizations thereof, thus criticizing publicly the collective action of the Board of Directors adopting said Code of Conduct and drawing the Board’s collective decision making into disrepute, in violation of multiple portions of the Code of Conduct, including but not limited to Sections 1.b. and 8.a, 8.b., 8.d; and 8.f; and

Whereas, Mr. Norton has been cautioned by Board members that his actions and his manner in the above respects are not acceptable and cannot continue, with no notable change in his behavior since that time; and

Whereas, Mr. Norton has been given a copy of the Recommendation of the Ethics and Elections Committee dated September 7, 2017, and has responded to it and tendered to the Board of Directors four statements of ARRL members in support of his response;

Now, therefore, the Board of Directors having considered the recommendation of the Ethics and Elections Committee at a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors duly called for the purpose of considering the actions of Mr. Norton and an appropriate remedy therefor, and in view of the information before it and taking into account Mr. Norton’s response and his submissions in response thereto, finds that there exists sufficient cause (i.e. a material violation of the ARRL Code of Conduct that has caused harm to the League) to publicly censure Mr. Norton for his unacceptable behavior as an ARRL Board Member, and Mr. Norton is admonished by the Board that no further, similar behavior will be tolerated. That action is so ordered.

After discussion and a roll call vote being requested, the motion was ADOPTED by a vote of 11 Aye, 3 Nay and 1 abstention with Directors Carlson, Olson, Norris, Williams, Lisenco, Blocksome, Frenaye, Pace, Boehner, Allen and Sarraatt voting aye, Directors Abernethy, Norton and Woolweaver voting nay, and Director Vallio abstaining.

So, what is this ARRL Code of Conduct? It’s official name is the [ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors](#), and was adopted at the January 20-21, 2017 board meeting.

To be fair, this document does include some good things, such as acting responsibly when it comes to ARRL financial matters and treating ARRL staff with respect. What seems to be questionable, and the reason for N6AA’s censure, however, is Section 8 Support of Board Decisions. It reads:

8. SUPPORT OF BOARD DECISIONS: A Board member must accept and publicly support Board decisions.

a. A Board member, as a leader in Amateur Radio, is encouraged to be an ambassador and an advocate for ARRL and, subject to the Confidentiality Standard of this Code of Conduct, to publicly promote the activities and actions of the organization with the ARRL membership. In doing so, a Board member must act at all times faithfully to the intent of the Board as expressed in its official statements, and should not reinterpret or re-characterize the Board’s actions to reflect his/her own view or the views of any other Board Member.

b. While having the right and responsibility to exercise independent judgment and to express dissenting opinions during Board deliberations, a Board member also has the obligation outside the Boardroom to respect and support final decisions of the Board, ven when the Board member dissented from the majority view.

c. A Board member who does not support a Board decision may express his/her opposition within the Board in an appropriate manner.

d. A Board member must not take actions publicly or with respect to the ARRL membership that have the purpose or effect of undermining or discrediting the decisions or actions of the Board.

e. If a Board member is ultimately unable to accept a Board decision and is unable to influence a change, the Board member should consider voluntarily resigning his/her position on the Board.

f. A Board member may not publicly oppose a Board action prior to the effective date of his or her resignation from the Board.

In effect, this is a gag order on a director if he disagrees with a Board decision. Not only that, this section seems to say that once

Continued on Page 8



# *What the Heck is the ARRL Board Thinking?* Continued from Page 7

someone gets elected to the Board, his allegiance to the Board is more important than the views of the amateur radio operators he represents.

One of my Twitter followers put it this way, "Where else can those ostensibly in a position of representation of the organization's members be punished for publicly criticizing the organization's rules? US Congress? Parliament of the UK? No, and no. @arrl board is looking more like North Korea than a representative body." Seriously, can you imagine if the U.S. Congress had such a policy in place?

Not only that, as I read the ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors, this censure is just a slap on the wrist, anyway. It does not say that a board member can be removed from office. All it says is "e. If a Board member is ultimately unable to accept a Board decision and is unable to influence a change, the Board member should consider voluntarily resigning his/her position on the Board." I say that Mr. Norton should stay and continue to bring issues like this to the membership.

The minutes say, "Mr. Norton is admonished by the Board that no further, similar behavior will be tolerated." What does that mean exactly? Would the board go so far as to attempt to remove him from office and deprive the Southwest Division of their duly-elected director? Can they do that and under what authority?

## **What did Norton actually do?**

I emailed Norton to find out what he said exactly to bring on this censure. Understandably, he was a little hesitant to speak to me directly. I then asked if I could see the supporting statements.

I then received two emails. The first was from Mark Weiss, K6FG. His email contained the text of an email he sent to the ARRL Board of Directors:

November 9, 2017

Dear \*\*\*\*\*,

This email is sent to you in response Director Dick Norton's request that I provide you with my recollection of some events that took place at the ARRL Forum during the 2017 International DX Convention in Visalia, California.

I don't recall the identity of all of the members of the Visalia ARRL Forum's panel, but Dick Norton appeared to be the primary speaker.

One of the topics addressed was the new Code of Conduct.

Dick Norton began the program by stating that he, as a Director, fully supports the actions of the Board of Directors. He covered some points of the new code that impact his relationship with the membership. Dick then inquired of those present if there were any questions or comments from the floor.

In response to Dick's inquiry, several of us raised our hands and were recognized.

When I spoke, I was very direct in my strong opposition to enactment of the confidentiality provisions contained in the Code of Conduct. My expressed thoughts included, but were not limited to the following:

1. *I acknowledged that Board member loyalty and commitment to the League was properly mandated; but the gag order contained in the Code of Conduct is clearly contrary to my sense of serving the best interests of the ARRL members.*
2. *I stated that contrary to the view expressed by the current ARRL administration, ARRL is a representative organization. That is, our districts elect directors and vice-directors to create and implement policies and rules that best represent the interests of amateur radio in general, AND THE INTERESTS OF OUR DISTRICT IN PARTICULAR.*
3. *It is my understanding that directors and vice-directors are precluded from informing their district members of the various (and conflicting) views expressed by the directors during the legislative process. If my observation is correct, I fear following will occur:*
  - A. *I may never be provided with information upon which I can evaluate the propriety of the Board's action.*
  - B. *I will never know the positions advocated or supported by my director at the Board meeting.*
  - C. *I will never know if my elected director acted in furtherance of the best interests of the hobby in general, or in the best interests my district in particular.*
  - D. *I will have no factual basis upon which to support or oppose my director's bid for reelection when his or her current term ends.*

Much to my surprise, as I was sitting down after I finished delivering my brief remarks, there was unanimous and very loud applause. I was shocked because I had not intended to stir up widespread opposition to the ARRL leadership's action; it was my intention to simply express the reasons for my opposition to the Code of Conduct.

It was immediately apparent to me that my remarks resonated with nearly everyone in the room. In fact, at the conclusion of discussion of the issue, the call for a vote in support or opposition to the Code of Conduct resulted in an overwhelming condemnation of the Code.

The Code of Conduct has been discussed at meetings I attended this year at our local radio clubs. The consensus among the club members was always consistent with the reaction to my comments at the Visalia ARRL Forum.

It is my fear that the League is heading down the path of becoming a secret "Star Chamber" organization without the transparency to which our membership is entitled.

Please do not form the impression that I believe Board disclosure to the membership is absolute. I indeed recognize the need to maintain confidentiality of proceedings in appropriate circumstances.

The Code of Conduct is already generating adverse consequences to the League. I personally know of valuable bequests that have been withdrawn as a result of the new disclosure rules. If this action is a trend, the League will definitely be harmed.

It is my opinion that the League's leadership made a major mistake in adopting the Code of Conduct. Please do what you can to cause the Board to revisit the Code of Conduct legislation. Please remove the "gag order" provisions. Please freshen the air the surrounds the ARRL leadership.

Thank you & 73,  
MARK A. WEISS, K6FG

There was also an email from Tim Duffy, K3LR:

Dear Officers and Directors of the American Radio Relay League, Inc.;

I attended the ARRL Forum held at the April 2017 International DX Convention in Visalia, California, as I do every year. Dick Norton, N6AA has asked me to report on two of my observations during the ARRL forum.

One item discussed at the ARRL forum was the new ARRL code of conduct for ARRL Directors. Dick Norton covered items contained in the code of conduct. It was clear that the audience was not happy about what was being told to them. A number of forum audience participants spoke in strong opposition to certain aspects of the code. My own personal attorney (and ARRL volunteer counsel) K3LA was surprised by what N6AA presented. K3LA is also opposed to the code and seeing the audience was clearly upset by Dick's presentation concerning the code, he walked out of the room. The opposition came from the upset audience, not from Dick Norton. Norton specifically



# *K3RF's Candidate Petition for ARRL Director Rejected*

ARRL EPA Section News <http://epa-arrrl.org>

<http://epa-arrrl.org/>, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 — Bob Famiglio K3RF, recently decided to run for the Atlantic Division Director position after serving over two years as Vice Director.

After receiving more than double the required member signatures required to be a candidate in the upcoming election, and forwarding his candidacy petition to the League he received a surprising letter from the ARRL CEO, Tom Gallagher NY2RF, dated August 23<sup>rd</sup>, in which Tom notified Bob that his petition to be a candidate for Atlantic Division Director in the upcoming election had NOT been approved by the Ethics and Elections committee.

The letter from Gallagher gave no reason as to why the petition was denied, only citing some undisclosed "conflict of interest". He was surprised that this letter came from the CEO rather than the actual Ethics and Elections committee and has since sent letters to the Ethics and Elections committee and League Officials requesting a clarification as to the nature of this "conflict of interest" but they did not respond.

Bob is currently a Vice Director for the ARRL Atlantic Division, a long time volunteer legal counsel, and former Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager, and has also served as an EPA county EC and District 1 EPA DEC.

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From <http://epa-arrrl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Famiglio-Letter-to-EE-Re-Disqualification-8-25-17.pdf>

Ethics and Elections Committee

American Radio Relay League, Inc.  
225 Main Street  
Newington, CT 06111-1494

**Re: Tom Gallagher's Letter Dated August 23, 2017**

Gentlemen:

Tom Gallagher's 8.23.17 letter (*attached*) asserts you have refused to approve my Petition to run for the position of Director of the Atlantic Division, due to "*failure to disclose conflict of interest*."

Mr. Gallagher's cryptic statement fails to provide any information on which the purported decision can be evaluated. As it is the duty of the ARRL Ethics & Elections Committee to provide not only a notice of disqualification, if such a decision was made, but to also establish a valid basis for disqualification, please confirm by return email that your Committee has actually made the decision to refuse to certify me as a candidate for Director for the Atlantic Division.

If you have made such a decision, please reply by email by August 25, 2017 detailing the alleged "conflict of interest" you allege I "failed to disclose." If you have evidence to support that allegation, I formally request that proof also be delivered to me by August 25, 2017.

I request that your reply include the following information:

- (1) Was the decision of the Committee unanimous?
- (2) If the decision was not unanimous, please identify which of you voted for and against the decision to disqualify me.
- (3) Was the decision to disqualify me based on a complaint by any ARRL Director, Vice Director, Officer, employee, contractor or third-party?
- (4) If the decision was based on or arose from a complaint, please identify the party or parties that instituted the complaint.
- (5) If the Committee has received input or communications from any non-Committee member regarding the Committee's decision to disqualify me, please provide all such documentation.

Based on the ARRL rules, if I wish to protest this decision, if it is actually your decision, I have until Friday, September 1, 2017 to initiate a protest. Please confirm, by email by August 25, 2017, that my interpretation of the deadline is correct. If you assert that my interpretation of the deadline is not correct, please state the deadline that you believe applies.

Since the time period for protesting the Committee's decision to disqualify me as a candidate for Director of the Atlantic Division has not yet passed, please consider this letter to also be a formal objection to the ARRL's declaration that Tom Abernethy has been elected or declared the Atlantic Division Director for the 2018-2021 term.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert B. Famiglio

Bob Famiglio, K3RF

Vice Director, ARRL Atlantic Division  
610-359-7300

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## *What the Heck is the ARRL Board Thinking?*

Continued from Page 8

pointed out that he supports the board's positions. I have previously discussed this code and other ARRL topics with Dick. I was not surprised by the audience's strong negative response to the code. Their reaction also mirrors my own feelings.

Second, I have been asked to report that there were many other topics covered at the forum. That is true. The code of conduct was only a part of the agenda that Dick discussed at the ARRL forum.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have questions.

Very 73,

Tim Duffy K3LR

ARRL Maxim Society & ARRL Diamond Club Member

ARRL Life Member

So, I go back to my original question. What the heck is the ARRL Board thinking, first in passing this draconian ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors, and second in using it to censure a director, who, according to several accounts, didn't commit the infraction in the first place? Are they so insecure in their decision-making that they have to resort to gag orders like this? Don't they see that taking actions like this brings them more "disrepute" than an honest dissenting opinion?

This whole situation really baffles me. I'd invite anyone representing the ARRL to shed more light on this.

## *Frailty of Consumer Ego (or, what rig not to buy)*

Ash Payne KK4YWN

*Charlotte, NC, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017* — You probably bought the wrong rig. You probably know this, but since you'd asked around for advice and followed your gut instinct [to follow the herd], you feel you did the proper research and there is simply no way you could have made a mistake.

Cognitive dissonance being what it is, you later run across an Internet forum thread, post, or blog in which someone claims to have found fault in the same radio you now own. The blasphemy can not be allowed. You entangle the foul poster in a series of poorly-designed logic traps that are meant to help you insulate your ego from the fact that you bought the wrong rig, while giving you the pleasurable experience of righteous indignation. Its always fun to blame someone else and punish them for being conveniently available. Even so, its not in the spirit of Ham Radio. You wont be able demonstrate your apocalyptic skills if nobody wants to hang out with you.

This scenario plays out daily on the Internet. So lets consider a fix:

Assume everyone around you is rig-stupid and make a mental note that anyone offering an unsolicited opinion is probably not even a real human being. They're probably an advertising bot written by Google, meant to net-stalk you and generate unsolicited opinions in an effort to sell you something.

Identify your price. No wiggle-room here. If you have \$3 don't even consider a \$3.25 rig. Doing this removes the "the wives gonna pass a stone!" anguish that goes with buying the wrong rig. Set your maximum price and stop thinking about it. Too many variables ALWAYS lead to buying the wrong rig.

Identify your desired usage. If you want everything in one box: congratulations on your colossal mistake. How can I say this? Because I want more radios. You want more radios. Everyone wants more radios. Eliminate the trade-up/trade-out anguish once-and-for all: KNOW that you will be buying more radios. Pick something that works for the things you know you want to do today.

Go outside. Look around. Do you have the space for a 160m doublet? Can you erect a 2m array of 17dbi (or better)? How much is a radial field truly going to cost you? Lets be realistic about antennas: compromise antennas suck. Don't wait until license renewal to finally realize that a good antenna system should always take priority. There is nothing wrong with a nightly sked with Bubby Mcsplatterson over in Pokepossum county, but there is nothing more satisfying that busting *ye olde pileup* and suddenly realizing your amp is still in standby. Antenna first, always.

Forget brand loyalty. We are all appliance operators and as long as we are willing to be loyal to brands we will always be locked into feature-sets that promote continued investment into a single brand. Look at the offerings of the major manufacturers. Notice the trend: Once you drink the koolaide, you must continue to drink the koolaide to unlock new features. Do you like being told what to do? Because this is how you get told what to do: marry a brand and stick with it through sickness and health.

If you've settled on a few radios that suit your budget, download and read the manuals. Whats missing? Make sure the functionality of the radio matches your expectations. The manufacturer may have omitted a feature that is required by some other part of your station. Can you live without some features? You may be able to stretch your budget if you know you're never going to need an internal antenna switch. However, there is no point in stretching your budget to get a radio that does vhf/uhf CW/SSB if you're not in a position to put up a high-gain array. Pocket the difference in price, oh wise consumer.

Skim reviews. Do not take them seriously. Ignore comments like "hands down the best/worst". Ignore comments that mention hardware failures but are extremely vague about the conditions surrounding the failure (these people spill burbon in their radios and go around to forums/review-sites claiming their radio just burst into flames but the manufacturer wont honor the warranty because they are evil and out to get us all). Treat reviews like logic-traps because that is what they are. The buyer bought the wrong radio and is never going to let you know they made a mistake. They're smart consumers. They have all the answers.

Don't buy anything you aren't licensed to use. Whats the point of handing your money over to someone and getting nothing useful in return? Earn General Class first. Then buy a radio. If something happens before you pass the test your widow and 10 children wont be forced to sell the radio at some absurdly low price so they can buy oatmeal and thin it out with sawdust.

Good luck getting the right rig for *today*.

*Post script-*

*If you run across a thread in which some zedder is poo-pooing the same radio you bought, don't get angry. Show some empathy for the poor slob. He bought the wrong rig and now he's stuck with it. He should be happy he passed General before being struck by lightning because while he's bellyaching, his widow and children aren't eating sawdust.*

## *The Hazard of Knowledge* Mark T. Jones KK4AXX

*Mobile, AL, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017* — Over the last year and more I've been battling health issues that have kept me from the things I love. Some I will never do again do to the permanent problems left behind. No matter. The issue here is what I've done with this down time.

I've read. Ever article I could find on my hobbies. Especially on Amateur Radio.

Here's what I've learned: It is physically impossible for the average person to make contact with his/her next door neighbor on any band, at any time, with any equipment whatsoever! No amateur equipment, most especially homebrew antennas, have any functionality because your average Amateur operator does not have a PhD in Electrical Engineering, nor the \$100,000.00 required for the "proper setup of proper equipment".

So when I finally got back on my feet after months of reading all of this I was literally depressed when I looked at my old rig sitting there covered with its dust cover like a death shroud, and even afraid to try to make a call with my obviously useless setup. I actually considered boxing it all up and selling out. Then we heard of several hurricane out in the Gulf aiming for Mobile. Before I knew it, neighbors started dropping by to ask if my standing offer to send messages in the event of a 'hard hit' still stood.

Wow! That's right! My second-hand ICOM, my homebrew match and antennas DID make contacts in the past when it counted, powered by my Jeep pulled up to my bedroom window because the mains were down. Messages got out, worries were eased. That brought to mind once calling in help for some guy I found stuck off road. Stuck so deep I couldn't break him loose with my ZJ and out of cell tower range, but in range of my 5 Watt 2 meter! And, wonder of wonders, someone was monitoring 2 meter simplex!

Aww... what do these guys with PhDs know? Amateur Radio was invented by guys who didn't really know what they were doing, but wanted to experiment and learn along the way. So what was the REAL lesson here?

Sometimes you can read too much and do too little.

For every claim of success with a given antenna, someone will come along to show how horribly inefficient it is. Wrong coax, wrong balun, not enough radials, whatever. What you need to ask yourself is if it worked for you, and did you enjoy yourself. Ignore "them", turn on the radio!



N3RDV Antenna Work November 4<sup>th</sup>

Photos & Captions courtesy of & © Copyright 2017 Jim Sanford WB4GCS





# *The Patient Who Couldn't Speak* Dr. Dennis W. Ross N6DR

Courtesy of Courage Kenny Handiham [World Weekly E-Letter](#) — Reprinted from HandiHam World Summer 1997 Issue

Years ago, I was one of a group of medical students on a neurology ward at the Veterans Administrations Hospital in San Francisco. While at the bedside of one patient, half listening to the professor drone on about a rare neurologic syndrome, I distinctly heard someone call for help. Looking around, I could see no one calling and none of my colleagues seemed to have heard anything. A minute later, I heard it again, and this time found the source. A patient across the room was sending Morse code with a spoon on the bedside table. I walked over to this patient. The nurse told me that he was aphasic (unable to speak) because of a stroke four days earlier. I started sending code to him with the spoon. In a rush, he poured out his story to me, at first sending too fast for me to follow.

Harry was retired from the merchant Marine, now living in an old sailors' home "on the beach" in San Francisco. He was a large man who looked older than his reported age of 69. He didn't have the weather-beaten look one imagines in old sailors. He explained to me that this was because he'd always been a radio operator, inside a small dark room away from the elements. He told me that since his stroke, he'd felt as if he were trapped in the radio room with the door locked from the outside. The receiver was still working, but the transmitter was broken. He couldn't talk back to anyone. He'd been tapping away with a spoon for days, even though he'd given up hope of being "rescued." Paralysis of his right side had prevented him from writing any messages.

I brought to the hospital an old Vibroplex Sidewinder telegraph key, which was Harry's favorite for sending Morse code. Harry had spent a good part of his life on oceangoing freighters as a radiotelegraph operator. He told me a story of something that had happened at sea several days before the attack on Pearl Harbor. Harry surmised that there was a large number of Japanese ships in the Pacific. His merchant vessel wasn't far from the Japanese fleet and heard the low-power radio exchanges between large numbers of vessels using the variant Morse code of the Japanese. He tried to inform West coast and Hawaiian naval authorities of the impending attack. Harry proudly displayed a book one of his friends had brought from the old sailor's home that told this story.

Daily visits by the medical staff amused Harry and me because, for a while, we became the center of attention. A group of doctors would surround his bed and watch me write down Harry's Morse code messages to the outside world. As time passed, however, there was little change in Harry's neurologic deficit. And, like all things, the novelty wore off, and Harry never regained his ability to speak; but he was verbose in Morse code for all the days I was able to follow him.

While Harry was in the hospital, I got to know him much better than any other patient on the neurology service. Years later, I remember his stories when I've forgotten everyone else on that ward. Ironically, this patient was classified as "unable to communicate" and considered a special problem for nursing-care placement. I don't think aphasia was a serious problem for Harry. He was accustomed to many nights at sea, talking via Morse code to his friends on the other ships and posts around the world. I believe Harry and I communicated better by Morse code than we would have by voice. I knew his medical history more thoroughly than if I had interviewed him in the conventional way. Even though Harry could hear without a problem, I began speaking to him only in Morse code. It seemed more appropriate and gave a private and personal nature to our conversations, if possible, when talking on a large, open ward.

The other doctors and the nurses who couldn't understand Morse code treated Harry as if he were deaf or spoke a foreign language. I'd been taught that aphasic stroke doesn't limit a person's hearing. Despite proof of that for Harry, people would tell me a question to ask of my patient. Then they'd be surprised when he started sending his answer in Morse code before I had sent any code myself.

## Communicating on a Different Level

There's a special nature to communications via Morse code. At night, when I wear headphones and listen to code over the short-wave radio (usually with my eyes closed), I feel that I'm communicating without talking or hearing voices. After a long day of talking to people and hearing many voices, it's a pleasant feeling. An hour or so after I put on the headphones and Morse code fills my ears, I have the feeling that I'm using a more primitive part of my brain. The message seems to come to me in a whisper or even to represent something I'm remembering rather than hearing. I no longer formulate what I want to say and then translate it into code for my fingers to send. The thoughts just come out. The syntax of my message changes and doesn't resemble transcribed speech. I'm not sure where the speech comes from when I enter this relaxed state of communication. It doesn't feel like it's coming from the conventional speech centers in the left temporal lobe of the brain.

I'd like to be able to give a telegraph key to the captain in Jack London's novel, *Seawolf*. In the final pages, the captain is shipwrecked and marooned on a distant shore. He also suffers progressive neurologic collapse. As the captain's sensory functions shut down one by one, I'd like to see if he could still communicate in Morse code.

Talking via short-wave radio blinds both parties to the cues that go with face-to-face communications. The radio makes the other person invisible, the code takes away accents and conventional patterns of speech. The listener can't judge whether the other person is well-dressed or well-educated before the conversation starts as we so often do in conventional communications. Radio also places the other party of the conversation at a distance.

The psychological space that surrounds us isn't invaded by the person on the other end of the conversation. I read of a medical student who had much more meaningful conversations with her pathology professor via ham radio and Morse code at night than during regular daytime teaching sessions. This doesn't surprise me. Morse code is a social equalizer and a more intimate way of talking.

Radio conversations in Morse code differ from spoken communication in that you can't be interrupted, unless you're using full break-in, as do skillful traffic handlers. Normally, your part of the conversation doesn't end until you throw the switch. Only then can the other person speak, and he can't be interrupted until he passes the communication back to you. Morse communications are succinct. Written and spoken language is more formal and structured than the abbreviations used in Morse code.

Morse code may be declining as a means of communication. Exchanges of computer-generated code may soon replace manually sent dots and dashes pounded out by a well-rounded fist balanced atop the plastic knob of the telegraph key. My experience with Harry makes me think about how little we know about the nature of human communications.

We've all heard this legend in one form or another over the years... seemed almost like just too good a story to be true.

But what if it was true?

Our thanks to Courage Handiham for making this available to share, just in time for the holidays...





*"Seen" At the 2017 WACOM Hamfest*

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2017 Ron Notarius W3WN





# *"Seen" At the 2017 WACOM Hamfest*

Photos courtesy of & © Copyright 2017 Ron Notarius W3WN



The End



## WPA Section News

Joe Shupienis W3BC, ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager

*Falls Creek, PA, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017* — We're now in the busy holiday season, and it's almost "the second week of deer camp!" With all the extra travel, and people visiting friends and family in WPA, it's a good idea to keep an ear on your local repeater for "strange" call signs. Be willing to help out and welcome visitors to our area.

It's also a good idea to keep a receiver tuned to simplex, too. Let's keep our tradition of helpfulness alive through the entire holiday season.

On a related note, I'd like to propose an operating challenge to everybody...

### "The December WPA QSO Challenge"

The purpose of this activity is to challenge every licensed radio amateur in Western PA to make at least ONE QSO Every Day of December.

You can use any band, any mode, any power, any time, from anywhere (home, mobile, etc.), to anywhere (across the street or across the ocean!)

The prizes are... Having fun, talking to old friends and making new ones, dusting off the radio, keeping your local repeater's electric meter spinning, enjoying amateur radio, remembering what all the knobs and buttons do, and did I mention, HAVING FUN?

### 2017 WPA Yearbook

Submissions have been trickling in for our WPA Yearbook. It's been quite a year for our WPA Section. If you can email some short writeups (with photos!) of activities you, your friends, and your clubs took part in this year, we can put together a nice little WPA Section Yearbook as a .pdf file that you can keep and share with others.

So many activities, hamfests, drills, public service activities, Field Day operations, Contests, SOTA and State Park activities, took place this year, and really should be documented for posterity!

Sooner is better — the target publication date is well before Christmas, so get emailing! The deadline is December 14<sup>th</sup>. Please try to send some pictures and stories to go along with them. Email your submissions to [yearbook@wpa-arrrl.org](mailto:yearbook@wpa-arrrl.org) as soon as you can.

Don't just send one item. From my travels around our section I know there are quite a few story-tellers, and if that sounds like you, then here is a fresh audience for your tales of amateur radio adventure in the WPA Section this year!

Thanks, and please do your best to send lots of stuff! Get typing!!!

### Final Final

With all the extra traffic on the roads, and the longest nights of the year upon us, please be extra careful in your travels. Enjoy good food and good friends at your club holiday functions, and get on the air and use that precious license!

73 and Press On!



## US Court of Appeals Upholds Dismissal of Lawsuit in Ames vs. ARRL

American Radio Relay League

*Newington, CT, November 14<sup>th</sup>* — A lawsuit filed by former ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Joseph Ames, W3JY, of Malvern, Pennsylvania, against ARRL and several of its officers and Board members was dismissed with prejudice by the United States District Court in Philadelphia in December 2016.

Ames filed an appeal of that decision, and on November 11, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit upheld the lower court's dismissal of the suit.

In its opinion, the appellate court wrote, "because the record shows that Ames acted contrary to [an] August 2015 directive on at least two occasions, the [ARRL's] statement that Ames 'repeatedly acted contrary' to the directive is true and cannot support a claim for defamation...it is apparent on the face of the complaint and related documents that the statements in the [ARRL website news] article are true, and the District Court therefore correctly held that the defendants established a complete defense to Ames's defamation claim and appropriately dismissed the complaint."

In June 2016, the Executive Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors relieved Ames of his appointments in the ARRL Field Organization, including his position as Chairman of the ARRL National Traffic System™ (NTS™) Eastern Area.



## An Early Christmas Gift

Bill Hill W3WH

*Houston, Pa, December 4<sup>th</sup>* — Some of you reading this will recall that I am pursuing DXCC on 160 meters to complete 9 Band. DXCC. After qualifying for the eight other HF bands, I started to get serious about finishing 100 or more Countries on Top Band. I

discovered that in addition to the usual challenges of an effective transmitting antenna and an equally effective receiving antenna, I had an additional roadblock to success- my neighbor's 58 inch PLASMA TV. When it was turned it wiped out reception from about 1820-1830 kHz. This block of frequencies is where much of the DX on 160 is to be found.

Of course it wasn't on all the time but it has been on enough to impede much of my progress. For the last year or so I've been getting up early most days at the request of my dog "Little Guy" who can't quite make it all night without going outside. So I've been on 160 most mornings about 5:00 AM. At this time of day you can often work DX from the west ie. Australia and New Zealand etc. Of course the prime time to work Europe is in our evenings which coincides with popular TV watching hours. As our friend Ron W3WN would say, \* sigh \*.

So for most of the last couple of years I've been trying different kinds of receiving antennas. A standard Beverage is out because I live on a 40' x 120' lot. Accordingly, I've tried a K9AY loop, a 4square receiving array, a couple of magnetic loops and even a BOG (Beverage on Ground) Some of these have been partially in the woods behind my property and on indulgent neighbors' properties. The current magnetic loop is a Wellbrook which is working best of all so far.

Well what does all this have to do with the upcoming Christmas Holidays? I'll tell you. The other day my neighbor told me she just bought a new TV which is NOT A PLASMA!!! Wow, what a difference that has made. In this past weekend's 160 contest, I had my best effort with two new DXCC entities and a total of 16 dx stations worked. To say I'm a happy camper is a gross understatement.

I've received a wonderful gift already and I hope your Christmas dreams come true too.



## WASH "End of Season" Christmas/Holiday Party!

As has been our tradition in the past, the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS** will hold our more-or-less annual "End of the Holiday Season" Christmas/Holiday Party on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at Calabria's Restaurant, 3107 Library Road (State Route 88), Castle Shannon PA., starting at about 5:00 PM.

The event will include a dinner buffet with a salad, choice of 2 entrees, 3 side dishes, rolls coffee & soft drinks.

Cost will be \$16.00 per person. Please contact Carol KB3GMN and let her know how many will be coming.

More details will be available at the December **WASH** club meeting.

## AO-91 Commissioned & Open for Amateur Use

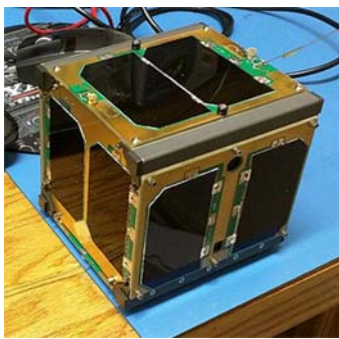
AMSAT News Service, American Radio Relay League

*Newington, CT, November 23<sup>rd</sup>* — AMSAT-NA's latest Amateur Radio CubeSat, RadFxCat (Fox-1B), now known as AO-91, has been opened for general use. AMSAT Engineering officially announced that AO-91 was ready for use at 0650 UTC on Thanksgiving Day, November 23. AMSAT VP of Engineering, Jerry Buxton, N0JY, turned over operation to Mark Hammond, N8MH, and AMSAT Operations during a contact on the AO-91 repeater during the pass over the Eastern US, AMSAT said in a bulletin.

The latest CubeSat in the Fox series was launched on November 18 from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Telemetry is downlinked via the DUV sub-audible telemetry stream, which can be decoded using [FoxTelem](#) software.

A 1U CubeSat, RadFxCat (Fox-1B) is a joint mission of AMSAT and the Institute for Space and Defense Electronics ([ISDE](#)) at Vanderbilt University. AMSAT constructed the rest of the satellite, including the spaceframe, on-board computer, and power system.

The Amateur Radio package is similar to that on AO-85, with an uplink on 435.250 MHz (67.0 Hz CTCSS) and a downlink on 145.960 MHz



The first Amateur Radio satellite to employ the D-Star digital voice and data format — D-Star One — was among about 20 secondary payloads lost on November 28<sup>th</sup>, after an otherwise nominal launch of a three-stage Soyuz 2.1 booster from the new Vostochny Cosmodrome in the far reaches of eastern Russia. The mission carried the Russian *Meteor* M2-1 satellite — the primary payload — as well as a Canadian *Telesat* experimental satellite, and 17 other secondary payloads, including D-Star One. According to reports, a fault occurred in the sophisticated and autonomous *Fregat* upper stage, which, after separating from the launch vehicle, inserts multiple spacecraft into their respective orbits. A so-called "space tug," *Fregat* has been in service for nearly 2 decades and has suffered three previous failures. Russian space agency Roscosmos is investigating the *Fregat* failure.

D-Star One, the first German commercial CubeSat, carried four communication modules, two designated for Amateur Radio use. It was developed by German Orbital Systems in cooperation with the Czech company iSky Technology as part of a plan to eventually assemble a low-Earth orbit communication network.

"Hopefully, we'll get another chance to utilize D-Star communications with a satellite repeater sometime in the future," Wayne Day N5WD, commented on the AMSAT-BB.

The *Fregat* upper stage functions as an orbital vehicle in its own right to access a range of orbital configurations through a series of "burns." Made up of 6 spherical tanks arrayed in a circle, *Fregat* is "independent from the lower three stages, having its own guidance, navigation, control, tracking, and telemetry systems," according to Gunter's Space Page. The November 28 launch was only the second from the new cosmodrome.



# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual WASH Two Meter Simplex Contest

This January will mark the Eighteenth Annual **WASH** 2 Meter Simplex Contest. We've already had a lot of interest in it, and this year promises to be even more exciting! Everyone who participated in it the last sixteen years had a blast, & we hope to continue the tradition again this year!

Rules were been revised before the 2013 event, following feedback from participants, and we have a new chair & a new address for mailing your logs from years past — **please** make certain that you use this year's address!

**Date & Times:** Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 7 to 11 PM EST. (That's January 14<sup>th</sup> 0000-0400 UTC to the purists!)

## Objectives:

- To make as many contacts as possible
- To have fun!

**Band, Mode & Frequencies:** The contest will take place solely on 2 meter band.

- **FM** : FM simplex only, no repeater contacts. The FM frequencies are all standard 2 Meter simplex frequencies, as per the ARRL 2 Meter Band Plan, every **15 kHz**, from **146.505 to 146.595 MHz**, and **147.450 to 147.580 MHz**. Use of simplex frequencies in the "FM Experimental Simplex" band of 145.510 to 145.670 are not recommended. See list of recommended simplex channels at the end of the rules.
- **CW**: 144.05 to 144.1 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan)
- **SSB & AM**: 144.2 to 144.275 MHz Only. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan).
- **Digital (including RTTY)**: 144.51 to 144.55 MHz. (See ARRL 2 Meter band plan) Multiple digital modes may be used, and participants are free to use any generally accepted Digital mode, but only ONE Digital QSO with a given station regardless of mode

→ *Note: Listen for CW QSO's around 144.1 MHz 15 minutes after the hour*

→ *Listen for SSB & AM QSO's around 144.2 MHz 30 minutes after the hour*

→ *Listen for Digital QSO's around 144.51 MHz 45 minutes after the hour*

In the event of accidental QRM with nets and non-contest QSO's in progress, please respect their right to the frequency and QSY.

**Power Limit:** Maximum 100 watts output.

**Exchange** : Callsign, contact number, ZIP Code.

For the purposes of the contest, the 5 Digit ZIP Code for your location is sufficient — do not use the "Zip +4" code. Mobiles and portables should use the ZIP code of their location as determined to the best of their ability. Canadian stations will use their 6 digit postal code

**Example 1:** "N3ZCG from W8XK, please copy Number 3, 15347."

**Example 2:** "K3VX from K3CM, please copy Number 21, 16801"

**Example 3:** "W3WH from W3OC, please copy Number 7, 15137"

**Contacts** : Work as many different calls and locations as possible, giving Exchange as noted above. Work each station **once** per mode, and **once** per ZIP Code — Mobiles can be reworked whenever they change locations. Remember hilltops work best!

**Disqualification:** Remember, this is a friendly "for fun" contest. Stations may be disqualified for infractions of the rules and for unacceptable operating practices. While not an inclusive list, stations may be disqualified for:

- FM signals transmitted on simplex channels below 146.505 MHz.
- Intentional interference to non-contesters, nets, & QSO's
- Intentional interference to other contest operators
- The committee reserves the right to verify QSO's. QSO's that can not be verified may be removed from the log without penalty.

**Scoring:** Each Contact:

**Phone** (FM, SSB, AM): 1 point  
**CW**: 2 points  
**Digital** (any mode): 2 points

**Multipliers:**

**Locations:**  
**Power:**

Number of different ZIP Codes  
X **3** Stations running 10 Watts or Less  
X **2** Stations running 10—30 Watts  
X **1** Stations running over 30 Watts

**Final Score:** Total Points x Locations x Power

**After the Contest:** Fill out all the log information. In the upper left corner check whether "base" or "mobile." In the upper right corner be sure to enter your callsign and club affiliation (or "none" if not a member of any club). Please number all log sheets consecutively. Log sheets are now available for download from the **WASH** web site, [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org), no later than January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Submit Log Sheets:** Check your log sheets carefully for dupes. Verify that all information is entered.

Send the logs to: **\*\* NEW ADDRESS FOR 2018 \*\***

**WASH** 2 Meter Simplex Contest  
c/o Charles Bihun KC3ELA  
1910 Woodward Avenue, Apartment 2  
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Enclose a #10 SASE for return of results.

**Entry Deadline: February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

**Each log submitted on or before the deadline will receive one (1) main prize ticket to WASHFest 2018 on February 25<sup>th</sup>**

Logs submitted with an SASE will have their ticket mailed to them, otherwise, the tickets will be available at the **WASH** Club table

## Recommended FM Simplex Frequencies:

146.505 MHz	146.580 MHz	147.510 MHz	146.520 MHz (*)
147.450 MHz	147.525 MHz	146.535 MHz	147.465 MHz
147.555 MHz	146.565 MHz	147.495 MHz	147.570 MHz

Simplex channels below 146.505 MHz are not to be used, as many of these are in use in WPA as repeater input frequencies.

(\*) The National Simplex Frequency, 146.520 MHz, may be used. However, many stations use 52 for casual conversation or as a calling frequency. If the frequency is in use or becomes used by non-participants, please permit them to use the frequency unimpeded. To avoid interference to other contestants and other users of the bands, please do not operate on 5 or 10 kHz "offsets" from these recognized FM channels.

# HK QSL Bureau

Robert Rey HK3CW & Ohio/Penn DX Mailing List

Cleveland, OH, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 — A few weeks ago in OPDX.1238, we reported that Siso HK3W (had) informed OPDX that he uses the URE's QSL Bureau system instead of the Colombia (HK) QSL Bureau. He stated, "because it won't arrive, your cards will disappear. So, don't waste your time and money, use Clublog.org OQRS systems, LoTW or EA4URE QSL Bureau to get your card or confirmation."

Since then, Rob HK3CW, President of the Colombian Ham Radio Association, LCRA - HK3LR- the Official IARU representative in Colombia, has contacted OPDX and wants to publish their rebuttal on the HK3W statements.

PLEASE REMEMBER: The following statements are from HK3CW and not from the OPDX:

- 1) The incoming and outgoing HK bureau system works fine as has been since 1930 without fail, any issues are with the postal system not with the LCRA.
- 2) HK3W is NOT a member of the LCRA and has a systematic campaign against the LCRA as he was kicked out for unethical practices both in QSLing and pirate radio contacts. He has a conflicting personality and had many confrontations with HK hams for many years.
- 3) Mr. Hennessey has and will continue to receive his QSLs cards through the HK system as he has during his whole ham radio career.
- 4) The LCRA has a letter which we requested to the Liga Radio Bogotá (LRB) where we submit all zone 3 QSLs, stating that Mr. Hennessey has been receiving QSL cards without issues for many, many years.
- 5) Mr. Hennessey is a disgruntled ex-LCRA member who only seeks revenge for being dishonorably dismissed from the LCRA and the LRB.

Direct all comments and questions to HK3CW (not the OPDX) at Roberto Rey [cwdude@gmail.com](mailto:cwdude@gmail.com) — Tedd Mirgliotta KB8NW, Editor, OPDX

**Members of the International Amateur Radio Contest Club 4U1A will activate 4Y1A from the International Civil Aviation Organization Amateur Radio Club starting on International Civil Aviation Day, 7 December, through—14 December.**

**QSL via UA3DX.**

**For DXCC Purposes, this will count as Austria**

**— OPDX**

The **Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party** is an annual Antique Wireless Association sponsored event where participants build their own transmitters using the designs, techniques, and tubes that were available in 1929 and earlier, and try to contact as many other stations as possible.

It is a cacophony of whooping, chirping, buzzing, clicking, drifting, swishing, swaying, warbling, and other interesting signals. This is what ham radio sounded like in 1929 and for two weekends in December it's 1929 again on 160/80/40!

Here are the details, including information on how to build your own transmitter. It's cheap, easy and rewarding. DX is welcome!

<http://www.antiquewireless.org/bruce-kelley-memorial-cw-qso-party.html>

Dec. 9 at 2300z to Dec. 10 at 2300z & Dec. 16 at 2300z to Dec. 17 at 2300z

New rules allow for a thundering 25W INPUT.

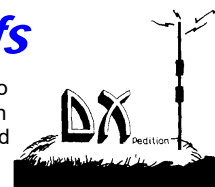
To learn more about AWA, the Museum's latest programming, and to join to help preserve our heritage, check out the website at: <http://www.antiquewireless.org/>

If you need assistance, send me a note! There is an army of Elmers willing to help you get on the air for the BKQP.

Whether you're using a 1929 transmitter or not, please call when you hear a vintage signal!

—73, Dean Faklis NW2K

## DX News Briefs



The [Perseverance DX Group](#) has announced plans to activate Ducie Island — a marine protected area — in October and November of 2018. The last Ducie Island DXpedition was **VP6DX** in 2008. Ducie is currently the 29th most-wanted DXCC entity according to ClubLog. The 2018 DXpedition would operate as **VP6D**.

"Landing permission, visas and radio license have been issued," PDXG said in a December 1 news release. "A team of 14 operators will be on the island for up to 14 days. The team will depart from Mangareva, French Polynesia aboard the expedition ship *Braveheart*. Seven operating positions are planned for 160-10 meters, SSB/CW/Digital, including FT8." More information available on the [PDXG Website](#) or at [info@vp6d.com](mailto:info@vp6d.com) — K5GS

Slim Alert: **V73/PDØLK** is a Pirate — The Daily DX & OPDX

LA4JSA will be active "soon" from Bear Island EU-027 as **JW4JSA**. He will be QRV on HF through approximately June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 — DX World

**6W7/F6HMJ** will be QRV 21 December through 15 January, 20—10, primarily CW. QSL via F6HMJ — OPDX

JHØIXE will be QRV as **T8CW** 27 December—5 January, 80—6. QSL via JAØFOX — JHØIXE

Daily DX Editor Bernie W3UR & his wife Becky N3OSH will be celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary as **V47UR** from V47JA/W6JON's QTH on Calypso Bay. They will be QRV 160—6, CW & SSB, but activity limited to their spare time. (And congrats on the anniversary!) — OPDX

G3TXF will be QRV as **3B8XF** from AF-049 10—11 March during the BERU contest. QSL via G3TXF — OPDX

A team will be QRV as **3D2EU** 23 February—16 March, 160—10. QSL via DK2AMM. More info at <http://www.rotuma2018.de> — DX Coffee

XRØY will be QRV 2—16 March, 3 stations 160—10 on CW SSB RTTY & FT8. QSL via DL4SVA. More info at <http://xr0yd.mydx.de> — OPDX

Radio Club de Provins F6KOP will sponsor an international team of 12 ops to **TY** Benin from about 7—18 March, with up to 4 stations on 160-10 on multiple modes. Call, QSL route, web site and more information forthcoming.

**XX9B** will be QRV on 9—17 March, 80 through 10 (and possibly 160), with 3 stations operating around the clock. Real time log updating via ClubLog is planned, along with OQRS. QSL via PP1CZ — DX World

**3B7A** will be QRV from St. Brandon next April. More information available at <https://www.facebook.com/SaintBrandonDx> — OPDX

A team will be QRV as **CY9C** from St. Paul Island 1—17 August. More information at <http://www.cy9c.com> — DX Coffee

## QSL Routes

3D2EU via DK2AMM  
5P1KZX via OZ1KZX  
5P3WW via DL1YAW  
5T1R via A92AA  
6YØAE via LZ4AE  
6YØD via TA3D  
7Q6M via K6ZO  
CR2M via W6NV  
CR3OO via W3HNK  
CR3W via DL5AXX  
CR5T via CS5ARC  
CW4MAX via EA5GL  
DT23WOP via HL1IWD  
EA8JK via EB7DX  
EF5T via EA5HT  
EF8R via EB7DX  
EF8U via EA8URL  
G6T via MØURX

HF8ØØPT via SP7PPT  
HG4FA via HA4BM  
LN8W via LA9VDA  
M2G via MØOXO  
OK2RJC via OK2RZ  
OP7ØBFS via ON2KFJ  
PX2A via PY2VM  
R164S via R6CF  
R1853S via R6CF  
SMØS via SM5BAX  
SO4R via SP4PND  
SW9AA via LZ1PM  
TM4K via F4EGZ  
TO1A via F5HRY  
UN9GD via DL8KAC  
XX9B via PP1CZ  
YN2CC via AJ9C  
ZW1CML via PY1CML  
ZW5B via K3IRV

Thanks to the NJDXA DX News Reflector, the DX-QSL Reflector, 425 DX News, OPDX News, DX Coffee, DX World.Net, ICPO Bulletin, & ARRL DX Bulletin for our **DX News** information. Thanks also to the ARRL DXCC Desk, & Bernie McClenny W3UR / *The Daily DX* for confirmations & additional information.





## WASH Classifieds

Information shown here is as supplied to the **WASHRag**. Condition as stated, and all sales should be considered "as-is" unless otherwise noted. All subject to prior sale or withdrawal from sale at the owner's discretion. All responsibility for this information lies with the source and not the **WASHRag** or the **WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.**

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Contact: **Michael S. Lazaroff K3AIR, Esquire**

Lazaroff & Suhr, Attorneys at Law

277 West Main Street, Saxonburg, PA 16056

Phone: 724-352-4905

The **WASHRag** Masthead is courtesy of Jeff Murray K1NSS creator of DASHToons & Dash the Dog Faced Ham!!

Find the online cartoons and stories of Dash the Dogfaced Ham & more at <https://www.jeffk1nss.com> !

Shop for Dash items at his online store on Café Press, [www.cafepress.com/shopdash](http://www.cafepress.com/shopdash)



## NASA On The Air 2017-18

The Amateur Radio clubs at National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) centers around the US have invited the Amateur Radio community to join the NASA On The Air (**NOTA**) special event. NOTA gets under way in December 2017 and continues through December 2018. In addition to being the agency's 60th anniversary, 2018 will mark 50 years since NASA orbited the first human around the moon, and 20 years since the first elements of the International Space Station (ISS) were launched into low-Earth orbit.

Starting on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, Amateur Radio club stations at various NASA centers and facilities will be on the air with special event operations to celebrate these monumental achievements, as well as current milestones. Some clubs will offer commemorative QSL cards, and a special certificate will be available indicating the number of NASA club stations worked on various bands and modes.

Key anniversaries during NOTA include the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Apollo 17 on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, which kicks off the event; NASA's founding on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1958; the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ISS first element launch on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1998; the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ISS Node 1 Launch on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1998, and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Apollo 8 — launched on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 1968, and returned on December 27<sup>th</sup> — marking the end of the event.

**More information** is on the NASA On The Air website.

— Rob Suggs KB5EZ & Kevin Zari KK4YEL



If you've downloaded the **WASHRag** from the N3SH web site, or picked up a copy from a friend... you can sign up to have the PDF copy sent directly to your email. You **do NOT** have to be a member of **WASH**!

Just send an email to [wa3sh-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:wa3sh-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) and the automation should take care of the rest!

## FCC FCC News

Courtesy of the American Radio Relay League

Newington, CT, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 — The FCC has **dismissed** a rule making petition filed last May by Thomas J. Alessi K1TA, of Stamford, Connecticut, that sought to amend the Part 97 rules regarding Amateur Radio Service call signs. The Commission action came in a November 28 letter from Scot Stone, Deputy Chief of the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Mobility Division. Alessi had asked the FCC to make call signs consisting of one letter, followed by two digits, followed by one letter (1 × 1 format) available to Amateur Extra Class licensees. Alessi asserted that the number of Amateur Extra Class licensees who desire short call signs exceeds the available supply of 1 × 2 and 2 × 1 call signs, and that his plan would make available an additional 7,800 four-character call signs.

"Approximately fifteen million call signs are presently available in the sequential call sign system, but it does not include every amateur call sign that has been allocated to the United States," Stone wrote in denying Alessi's petition. He also pointed out that the FCC had rejected a similar suggestion in 2010 that would have made certain additional call signs, including 1 × 1 call signs, available to Amateur Extra Class licensees, but concluded at the time that enough call signs already were available for every Amateur Radio licensee to obtain an acceptable call sign. In addition, the FCC said in 2010 that it had no plans to revisit the issue.

"You have not demonstrated any changed circumstances or other reason that would warrant revisiting this decision," Stone's letter concluded.

Wrapping up a 2-day visit to Puerto Rico on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, recognized Amateur Radio volunteers in praising those who turned out to help the stricken Commonwealth in the wake of Hurricane Maria.

"[T]he worst of tragedies can also bring out the best in people. I saw that firsthand during my 2 days in Puerto Rico," Pai said. "Everyone is pitching in: The people of Puerto Rico helping their neighbors, hardworking Federal Emergency Management Agency staff — including communications personnel in Emergency Support Function #2 — the dedicated regulators of the Puerto Rico Telecommunications Regulatory Board, and the FCC's own Roberto Mussenden, who has spent the past month away from his family on the mainland in order to help the island where he grew up."

"Additionally, Amateur Radio operators, broadcasters, cable operators, fixed wireless companies, wireline carriers, and mobile providers have stepped up to the plate, working overtime to connect the disconnected," Pai continued. "All of this work reflects the ethos I saw on many signs and t-shirts during my time on the island: 'Puerto Rico Se Levanta' [Puerto Rico is Rising]."

Pai said recovering from Hurricane Maria will require an all-hands-on-deck effort, and the FCC "remains committed to doing everything we can to help restore communications networks as quickly as possible." He also expressed his belief that that "more funding will be needed" in the months ahead.

In October, the FCC granted ARRL's request to waive current Amateur Radio rules to permit data transmissions at a higher symbol rate than currently permitted, in order to facilitate hurricane relief communications between the continental US and Puerto Rico. The temporary waiver is limited to Amateur Radio operators in Puerto Rico using PACTOR 3 and PACTOR 4 emissions, and to those radio amateurs in the continental US who are directly involved with HF hurricane relief communications involving Puerto Rico or the US Virgin Islands, the Commission said at the time.

During his stay in Puerto Rico, Pai visited various parts of San Juan and towns along the northeastern coast. He also inspected a tower site and associated infrastructure on mountains in El Yunque National Forest. That infrastructure serves a critical role in providing connectivity in the eastern part of Puerto Rico, particularly for first responders. While there, he met with President Sandra Torres López and Associate Member Alexandra Fernández Navarro of the Telecommunications Regulatory Board, attended a briefing hosted by FEMA and attended by staff from ESF-2, the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Weather Service, the Small Business Administration, and others, and with representatives from numerous communications entities, including fixed wireless providers and broadcasters.

"The path to recovery has met several challenges, most notably the lack of power and functional infrastructure," Pai said. "One thing is clear: Overcoming these challenges won't be easy."

**Has Roadway found the tower yet?**



# WASHfest 2018

The South Hills Hamfest — Now in our **TWENTY THIRD** big year!  
Sponsored by the WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Rain or Shine (or Snow!)

## Home Economics Building, South Park

3735 Buffalo Drive, South Park Township, PA 15129

Behind the Allegheny County Police Station on Brownsville Road

Talk-In on 146.955(-) and 443.650(+) 131.8 PL

Donation \$5



**(800) 545-8881**

Breakfast & Lunch will be available!



*FREE Coffee* for the entire Hamfest  
courtesy of HAM RADIO INSURANCE ASSOCIATES  
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Second Prize: Yaesu FT-7900R Dual Band V/UHF Transceiver  
Third Prize: LDT AT200 Pro2 Automatic Antenna Tuner  
Fourth Prize: Yaesu FT-65R Dual Band V/UHF Handheld



### Additional Hourly Door Prizes! 2 Special Black Box Prizes (Separate Drawing)!

Main Prize tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20

All Prizes Subject to last-minute changes

For Table Reservations, or More Information, Please Contact:

Carol Danko KB3GMN at (412) 884-1466 [n3sbf@comcast.net](mailto:n3sbf@comcast.net)

E-mail us directly at [washarc@yahoo.com](mailto:washarc@yahoo.com) Check out our website too! [www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org)

**Please Note:** Early Table Reservations must be paid in full on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Reservations received after February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 must include payment in full. Reserve now... we have sold out in advance eight years running!

Hamfest Table Reservation Form—Please PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Tables WITH Electricity: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Tables WITHOUT Electricity: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$12.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**5 Or More** Tables w/o: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to:  
WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS  
PLEASE MAIL RESERVATION TO:  
**WASHFEST 2017**  
c/o CAROL DANKO KB3GMN  
4246 Seton Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-1244

We reserve the right to resell any tables not occupied by 8 AM, unless prior arrangements have been made!





# WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.

## Membership Application, New or Renewal



I would like to join WASH! I am interested in the following type of membership: ☐ **New Membership** ☐ **Membership Renewal**

(check quarter \_\_\_\_\_) →

(check one ) ↓

	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Qtr Jan-Mar	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Qtr Apr-Jun	<input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Qtr Jul-Sept	<input type="checkbox"/> 4th Qtr Oct-Dec
<input type="checkbox"/> (F1) Full Membership:	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> (F2) Full Membership < 18 or > 65 yrs of age:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
<input type="checkbox"/> (A1) Associate Membership:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50

☐ (FM1) Family Membership (\$3.00 x No. of household family members): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Members Only:

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Club E-Mail Reflector

☐ I do NOT want to be added to the Electronic Newsletter Mailing List

[If you have an Email address, you Will be added to both lists UNLESS you choose to Opt-Out]

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires On: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No Family ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*N3RDV has requested that all membership requests and renewals include an application so that his information is up to date*

Please make your check or money order payable to the club treasurer, Mark Stabryla.  
The Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject new memberships or renewals.  
Please return completed membership form along with check/money order to the club treasurer or mail to:

WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS, INC.  
c/o Mark Stabryla N3RDV, VP/Treasurer  
1120 McKnight Drive  
Bethel Park, PA 15102-2456



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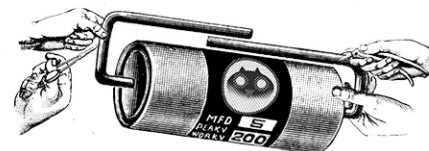
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Glenwood, MD 21738 Phone: 301-854-5650



**Arghh!**  
What Mightst We Draw For Ye, Matey?



**HANDMADE BY GNOMES.**



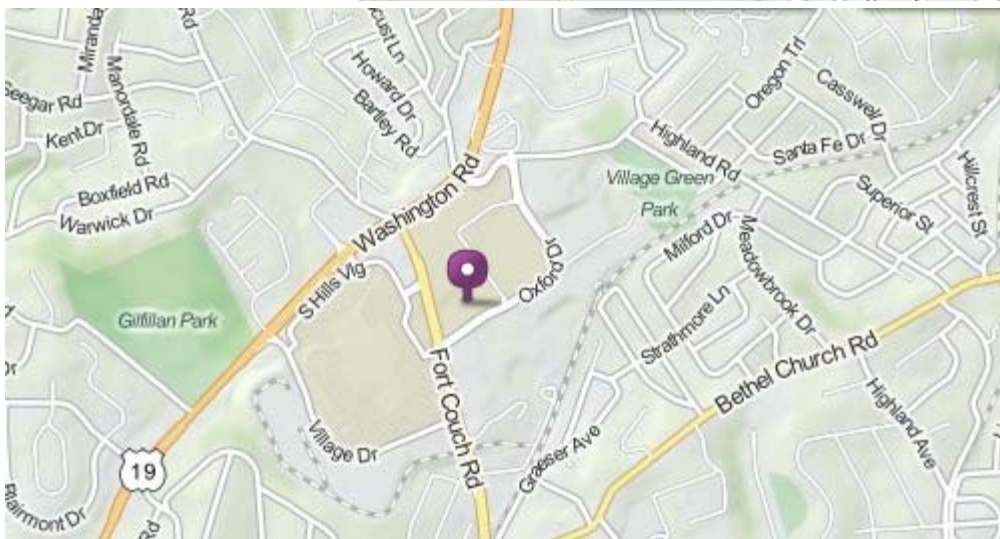
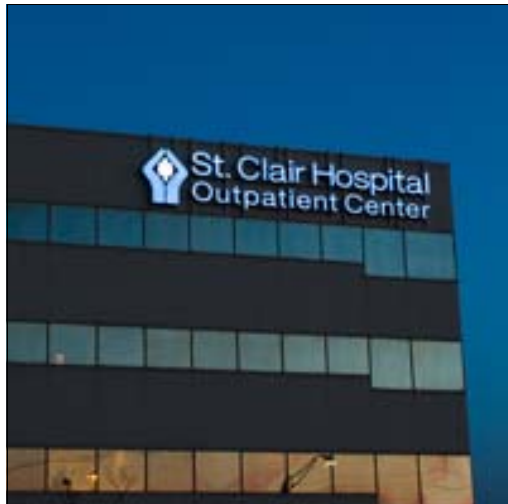
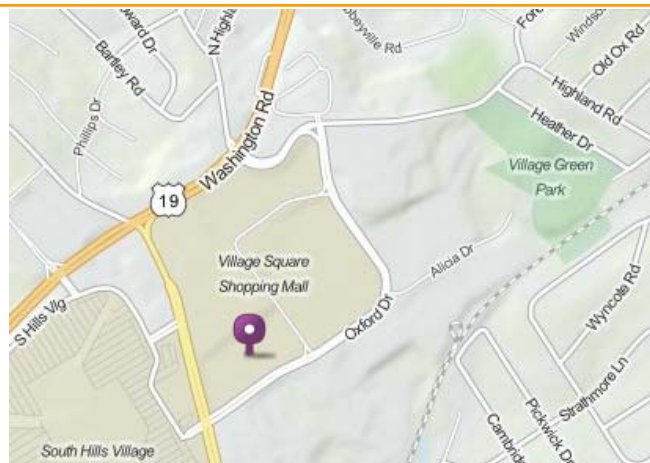
# 2017 WASH Meeting

## Location

### St. Clair Hospital Outpatient Center Conference Room

2000 Oxford Drive, Bethel Park PA 15102

Adjacent to Village Square Mall, across Ft. Couch Road from  
South Hills Village Mall, just off of US Route 19



## The WASHRag

Wireless Association of South Hills, Inc.

Ron Notarius W3WN, Editor

3395 Rosewood Drive

Castle Shannon, PA 15234-2546



N3SH / WA3SH  
NP2SH/B

[www.n3sh.org](http://www.n3sh.org)  
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